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## UA37/39 Gemini 79 Press Release

David Livingston  
*Gemini 79*

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## WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY 42101

June 27, 1979

Department of Music

"Gemini '79", a WKU musical ensemble will visit the Pacific Armed Forces bases this summer.

Selected as a USO tour group, the seven member student band and its director will entertain military personnel in Japan, Korea, Okinawa, Philippines and Diego Garcia (Indian Ocean) during a 53 day trip beginning mid-July.

Having traveled twice previously to both the Caribbean and Europe, this marks the fifth such trip taken by the group since its formation in 1965.

According to the director, Dr. David Livingston, professor of music at Western, the band will entertain mostly on military bases and in service clubs giving a total of approximately 60 performances.

Variety will be the spice of the show, with all styles of music and song-and-dance routines. Saxophones, drums, lead and bass guitars and trumpets will sound out the sounds from the name bands of the 40's to the modern disco combos. Rounding out the repertoire will be bluegrass, jazz and modern rock.

"We're trying to get the group as professional as we can," Livingston said. "In a real razor-sharp, tight group, there's no room for amateurism and we want to give a quality show."

Since the individual auditions in the fall of the past year, Livingston and the students have been rehearsing mostly on Sunday afternoons. "I drive them pretty hard," Livingston admitted. "But I chose these people, and I expect the ultimate in cooperation."

This year's group of Gemini musicians include: Vicky Davis, a performing arts major from Georgetown, Indiana, lead vocal; Jeff Jones, history graduate student, drums, Patience Nave, pre-pharmacy sophomore, saxophone and vocals, Tim Livingston, elementary education major, lead and bass guitar, all from Bowling Green; David Hoggard, vocals, keyboards, sax, and bass guitar, from Hodgenville; Jeff Jansky, senior music major, trumpet, percussion, and vocals from Leesburg, Florida, and Terri Ham, vocals and trumpet, from Nashville, Tennessee.

Band leader Dr. Livingston also will perform with the group on piano, sax and any other instrument which might be needed on the eight-week tour the group will be making.

"Everybody in the group has to be versatile and play more than one instrument," Livingston explained. "Since the group is so small, most everybody sings, too," he said, adding that it is about half the size it has been in years past since its beginning in 1965, but the reason is because USO funds allocated to musical groups are a lot less than they used to be.

Here are some former Gemini members who are working in the professional entertainment field today: Larnell Harris, '69, vocalist and drummer, this year nominated for Grammy Awards, Gospel Category, Best Male Vocalist of 1978, Best Album of the Year, Best Song of the Year; John Carpenter - European Tour '68, well-known Hollywood screenwriter, director and producer; James Owmbly, keyboard and bass





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player, Nashville recording studios; Merry Herbert, '73, drummer with a professional female group touring Canada, the Mid-West, and the West Coast; Kerry (Doc) Stone, guitarist with Jake Hess; Sam Foster, '73, currently the drummer with the Donny & Marie TV series; Jackie Franz, '73, Nashville recording studios, formerly with "Dave and Sugar", popular singing group (Top 40).

The group will be giving two concerts before leaving on tour. The first will be Friday, July 13 in cooperation with the Bowling Green Fine Arts Commission at "Runway 5" at 7:30 p.m. The last concert will be at Downing Student Theater (WKU) on Sunday, July 15th at 3:00 p.m.